

Claims

1. Use of an anti-microbial agent and a metal chelator in
5 the manufacture of a medicament for the modulation of lipid
metabolism in the vascular system of an individual.
2. Use according to claim 1 wherein the level of cholesterol
is reduced in the vascular system of the individual.
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3. Use according to claim 1 wherein the level of
apolipoprotein-B is reduced in the vascular system of the
individual.
- 15 4. Use according to claim 3 wherein the condition is
selected from the group consisting of hypercholesterolemia,
hyperlipidemia, nephrotic syndrome, hypothyroidism,
dysglobulinemia and Cushing syndrome.
- 20 5. Use according to claim 5 wherein said anti-microbial
agent is a macrolide antibiotic.
6. Use according to claim 5 wherein said anti-microbial
agent is a azalide antibiotic
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7. Use according to claim 6 wherein said anti-microbial
agent is azithromycin.
8. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein
30 said metal chelator is a copper chelator.
9. Use according to claim 8 wherein said copper chelator is
acetylsalicylic acid.

10. Use according to any of claims 1 to 9 wherein said medicament is a single composition comprising an anti-microbial agent and a metal chelator.

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11. Use according to any of claims 1 to 9 wherein said medicament comprises separate preparations of the anti-microbial agent and metal chelator.

10 12. A method for modulating lipid metabolism in the vascular system comprising administering an anti-microbial agent and a metal chelator to an individual in need thereof.

13 A method according to claim 12 wherein the total level of
15 cholesterol is reduced in the vascular system of the individual.

14. A method according to claim 12 or claim 13 wherein the level of apolipoprotein-B is reduced in the vascular system of
20 the individual.

15. A method according to any one of claims 12 to 14 wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, nephrotic syndrome,
25 hypothyroidism, dysglobulinemia and Cushing syndrome.

16. A method according to any one of claims 12 to 15 wherein said anti-microbial agent is a macrolide antibiotic.

30 17. A method according to claim 16 wherein said anti-microbial agent is a azalide antibiotic

18. A method according to claim 17 wherein said anti-microbial agent is azithromycin.

19. A method according to any one of claims 12 to 18 wherein
5 said metal chelator is a copper chelator.

20. A method according to any one of claims 12 to 19 wherein
said copper chelator is acetylsalicylic acid.

10 21. A method according to claim according to any one of
claims 12 to 20 wherein anti-microbial agent and the metal
chelator are administered simultaneously.

22. A method according to any one of claims 12 to 20 wherein
15 anti-microbial agent and the metal chelator are administered
sequentially.

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-microbial
agent and a metal-chelator for use in the modulation of lipid
20 metabolism.

24. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23
comprising azithromycin and aspirin

25 25. A method of preparing a composition for use in the
modulation of lipid metabolism comprising;
admixing a anti-microbial agent and a metal chelator with a
pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

30 26, A method according to claim 25 wherein the anti-microbial
agent is azithromycin and the metal chelator is
acetylsalicylic acid.